

13 Building Rings Said to Fix Prices

(Continued from page one)

connection with the operations of the open price association. It was revealed that Ainsworth had an office with thirty-five clerks at an annual cost of about \$200,000. Ainsworth himself, testified Lührs, got a salary of \$50,000 a year when he had fifteen exchanges under his roof, but that recently two of these dropped out and his salary was said to be around \$40,000 to \$48,000. Clark McKelcher, counsel for the association, got \$15,000 a year. It was shown that the members of the nine bodies were scattered all over the country and generally controlled the articles they produced. The exchanges were conducted somewhat along Hettrick's system, except that instead of cards, large colored charts were used, which were fancifully referred to by Lührs as the "golden rod" chart, the "canary" chart and the "salmon" chart, according to their hues. In each of the exchanges, said Lührs, every transaction and order was immediately reported by members to the office and was distributed daily on these charts to members.

All Quotations Reported The Steel, Sash and the Steel Lumber and Shelving Exchanges, Lührs testified, reported bids and quotations on estimates. In these cases, he declared, the quotations were distributed to those of the members who were also

bidding, each bidder thus knowing what his competitor was quoting. All this was done before the contract was given out. Lührs declared there was no rule prohibiting any bidder from changing his bid after obtaining the estimate of his competitors.

"But this doesn't tend to help competition much, does it?" asked Mr. Untermyer.

"No, not much," replied Lührs. "Don't you know you were conducting a business that was constantly on the verge of coming into conflict with the law?"

"I didn't know whether it was law or not."

Mr. Untermyer here read from the preamble of the constitutions of the various exchanges which set forth that "to avoid the use of the exchange as a price fixing or trade controlling device no information will be received, distributed or exchanged by the secretary relating to any actual selling price any member intends to ask or to enter into any arrangement with any other member which has to do with any of these prohibitive practices."

"Contrasts Pledge and Practice" "How do you reconcile Mr. Lührs," asked Untermyer, "this distribution and exchange of quotations among competitors with this speech in the preamble?"

"I don't reconcile them at all," answered Lührs.

"Don't you know that all these illegal combinations start with virtuous speeches and that the more obnoxious they are to the law the more sweet disavowals they contain?"

"I don't know about that."

Lührs was here questioned about records of the minutes of the various organizations, and it developed that the minutes were not kept in regular minute books but on sheets of paper which were sent out to the membership only after they had been approved by Clark McKelcher, the counsel. The reports sent out by the association to its members, Lührs admitted, were so complete that each of the members could run a complete set of books of the other members' business. Some of these reports, he added, did contain a record of the sales order business, while others did not.

"Were not these forms used as a guide in price fixing by the members?" asked Mr. Untermyer sharply.

"I don't know what use they made of them, just as a matter of information."

Doesn't Know Uses "Were these merely to satisfy the curiosity of members?"

"I don't know."

Lührs denied that any information about a rise or decrease in price of products was disseminated from his office, whereupon Mr. Untermyer produced a bulletin signed by Ainsworth, of the Brass and Copper Exchange, sent to all the members, which set forth that a telegram had just been received from the Rome Brass and Copper Company that the firm had reduced the price of copper one cent a pound.

Lührs added that many members do not report and that as a matter of fact the reports and dissemination of information by Ainsworth's office were "purely voluntary" acts and not "duties."

To which Mr. Untermyer replied: "Can you imagine why a member would go on paying or belong to the organization if he did not expect to receive or submit reports?"

Information Refused Outside Mr. Untermyer here read into the record a letter from the Chapman Valve Company, not members of the exchange, requesting Ainsworth's information on prices being asked by a member of the exchange. Ainsworth's reply read in part as follows:

"I am very glad to know that you are interested in the Plumbing Fittings and Valve Exchange, and it seems to me you can demonstrate your interest better by joining. When you become a member of the exchange you will have continuously before you the prices which all manufacturers make on their fittings and valves at all times. The whole exchange proposition is based upon the principle that information is supplied only to those who supply like information."

The examination of these organizations will be continued in City Hall this morning. Mr. Untermyer is assisted in the probe by George Brennan, former Assemblyman in Brooklyn; Leonard Wallstein and Nathaniel Goldstein.

Women Tellers Favored To Aid Bank Business

Draw Depositors, Says Speaker at Convention; Advocates Pay That Exceeds Motorman's

PHILADELPHIA, April 27.—It pays to have women in tellers' cages in savings banks because men will leave a short line in front of a male teller's window to stand in a long line to wait to be served by a woman teller, Raymond R. Frazier, president of the Washington Mutual Savings Bank, of Seattle, Wash., declared today in an address before the Second National Conference of Mutual Savings Banks.

"The day of low wages for bank employees is gone," said Mr. Frazier. "The paying teller must now get as much as, and a little more than, a motorman."

Victor A. Lersner, of Brooklyn, N. Y., told the delegates that less promptitude and efficiency and more courtesy would pay the banks of the present day, "which are woefully lacking in this quality." This, he declared, is why women "hate banks and banking."

He suggested a "primer" in the back of every bankbook, telling the "whys, wherefores, and hows" of banking, so that the customer could understand.

Cardinal Dougherty opened the conference with prayer.

Connecticut Senate Puts Brakes on Daylight Fuss

Refuses to Hunt Miscreant Guilty of Ringing Capitol Bells on New Time

HARTFORD, Conn., April 27.—The state Senate rejected today, unanimously and without comment, a joint resolution which originated in the House yesterday authorizing the appointment of a committee to discover the miscreant upon whose order Capitol bells were sounded according to daylight-saving time, and what state departments were ignoring the law by opening and closing an hour earlier than usual.

Two state Senators, who are strongly opposed to daylight-saving, had admitted after the resolution had been rejected that they had been thinking of something else and hadn't noticed what they were voting against.

Street clocks in Waterbury, New Haven, New London, Stamford and other cities have been set ahead, despite the prohibition of the Legislature, and Yale University, whose charter was granted by the Legislature, also has adopted daylight-saving time.

Representative John T. Dunn Jr., leader of the daylight-savers in the Legislature, said today that he was sure that the resolution of Representative Adriance R. Wadsworth for the suspension of this city's charter because of its addition to daylight-saving time would be defeated when it came to a vote.

Pope Names Two U. S. Bishops

ROME, April 27 (By The Associated Press).—Pope Benedict has appointed Hugh C. Boyle, rector of the Church of St. Mary Magdalen, of Homestead, Pa., as Bishop of Pittsburgh. The Pontiff also appointed Monsignor Emanuel Ledvina of Chicago to be bishop of Corpus Christi, Tex.

Delaney Asks Aid of Court, Holds Office

(Continued from page one)

commissioners when the injunction suit was opened before Justice McAvoy. Senator Hiram W. Johnson, of California, and Corporation Counsel O'Brien appeared for the city and John F. Collins for Mr. Delaney.

Quoting from the complaint of 674 printed pages, Senator Johnson reviewed the city's contention that various sections of the state and Federal constitutions were violated by the law, which, he said, enabled a state appointed body to exercise arbitrary power to break contracts now existing between the city and the transportation companies and to make new contracts binding the city to the expenditure of millions of dollars without the consent of the city.

Referring to a remark attributed to Senator Johnson that the new commissioners had used "strong-arm methods" in obtaining control, Mr. Scott, for the defendants, said: "I am glad that my distinguished friend has not said to this court that we used strong-arm methods."

Mr. Scott contended that many precedents were available to show that the title of a state officer to take office cannot be tried by means of an injunction. He said it was not the purpose to break contracts, but added: "The Supreme Court says that contracts no longer go in an emergency."

Miller Signs Knight Bill On Traction Valuations

Measure Provides That State Must Consider Prospective Earning Capacity of Lines

From a Staff Correspondent ALBANY, April 27.—Governor Miller today signed the Knight bill amending the Public Service law in respect to the method to be employed by the Transit Commission in determining the valuation of New York City transit properties. The bill provides that these valuations shall be made "with due regard to the estimated prospective earning capacity of the property necessarily used in the public service and the rate or rates of fare that the company was entitled to charge under a contract or franchise, such valuation not to exceed the fair reconstruction cost of

the property less depreciation" prior to the time the act took effect.

The introduction and enactment of the measure was made on recommendation of Governor Miller, who, in the closing days of the Legislature, submitted a special message in which he committed the adoption of legislation in order to define more clearly the procedure to be followed by the Transit Commission in determining valuations.

Hettrick Used Assumed Name, Rent Suit Shows

Known in 79th St. Apartment as "John Rogers," and Wrote His Own References

A rent action brought in the 9th District Municipal Court by the Tero Realty Company yesterday revealed that John T. Hettrick, who is now serving a term in the penitentiary, occupied an apartment at 133 West Seventy-ninth Street as "John Rogers."

At the time the Lockwood Investigating Committee was looking into the accounts of Hettrick a number of checks made payable to Jeanne Rogers were discovered. At first it was thought these might have been issued to cover payments to persons interested in covering up the operation of Hettrick's "code of practice."

The suit brought by the Tero company, however, shows that they were payments made by Hettrick to his wife. According to E. H. Harris, superintendent of the apartment house, Hettrick, as "John Rogers," took a lease on the apartment for \$2,000 and gave John T. Hettrick as reference. Hettrick wrote a glowing recommendation of the virtues of "John Rogers," according to Harris. Judgment for the \$2,000 monthly rental was given against Hettrick by default.

Arnstein Defense Scores

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Testimony offered by the government relating to the charges against Julius W. (Nicky) Arnstein and others, charged with conspiracy to bring stolen securities into the District of Columbia.

Through Charles H. Bready, formerly employed in the New York brokerage office of Sullivan & Co., however, evidence of the trip of Wilen W. Easterday, one of the accused, to Los Angeles in November, 1919, which the government contends was in the nature of a flight, was put in the record. Bready testified that Easterday made the trip immediately after the arrest of a supposed associate of Sullivan and had said he was going away "until this thing blows over."

The government also sought to prove that Easterday was a partner in Sullivan & Co.

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Natural, unrobbed foods like whole wheat possess a natural health-giving value, which is destroyed in producing "refined" foods like white flour.

Bread, muffins, etc., made with Wheatworth Whole Wheat Flour, not only build bone and have natural laxative properties which insure health and help to ward off illness.

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The New Shop for Girls Shows Its Colors with . . .

TINTED ORGANDIE FROCKS . . .

For Girls (12 to 16 yrs.)

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FROCKS delicately colorful as the rainbow after an April shower, fresh as the first flowers to blossom in May sunshine—values as welcome to mothers as bright weather to youth.

Maize, Pink, Blue or White With Picoted Ruchings.

NEW GIRLS' DRESS SHOP—Second Floor

Ship Strike Conference Deadlocked

(Continued from page one)

situation was "very hopeful." The engineers, he said, would probably come around, but if they did not "their blood would be on their own heads."

Present economic conditions fully warranted a reduction in marine wages, Chairman Benson said, but, in opening the conference, he added that he had weighed the matter long and carefully, taken advice freely and come to a mature and well-considered conclusion.

To Cut Down Overtime

In addition to the wage reduction, the chairman declared, there should be virtual elimination of overtime, discontinuance of night dock and engineer officers, a substantial reduction in the subsistence allowance and such other modification of the working rules as would make for efficiency and economy of operation. These, he said, were his views of a reasonable adjustment of the matter.

"The Shipping Board," the chairman said, "does not desire arbitrary wage reductions based solely on the present industrial depression, which might except the seafarers from the higher standards of living." In making readjustments, he added, it purposes to stress the same factor which was so largely considered in making increases—the return of the purchasing value of the dollar toward its normal worth, as reflected in the percentage drop in the cost of living.

"I have given much thought to this matter," he said, "I want to be fair to the interests of the men and officers who are manning our ships, to the operators and owners who are looking to the Shipping Board to protect their interests in the merchant marine. All of us should consider the interests of the private owner in foreign trade, who is manfully carrying the burden of competition unassisted by the government."

Rapidly changing economic conditions resulting from the war, Chairman Benson continued, have caused tremendous declines in ocean freight, the tying up of many ships and the unemployment of many men. Wide price revision has been brought about, too, he asserted, by the pressure of reconstruction in land industry. General liquidation is

taking place, he declared, and, as far as labor is concerned, substantial reductions in wage scales are reported daily.

Upholds Sea Service Bureau

Six points on which the marine engineers asked favorable assurances before discussing wages in the present negotiations were rejected by the chairman. The board, he said, could not give its consent to the abolition of the sea service bureau, which places American seamen on American ships.

"Nor can it consent," he continued, "as a government institution, to points five and six, involving union preference. The Shipping Board as a government institution must stand for that equality in its relations to the government which is guaranteed to every citizen by the Constitution of the United States."

Points two, three and four, which referred to interpretation of the seamen's act, he said, must be rejected as long as the law was in force.

With reference to the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, declared the engineers were willing to negotiate on working rules, but that they could not willingly accept a reduction in the present wage scale.

"We want to deal in a fair spirit," he said "but we can't agree with Chairman Benson when he says there should be a 15 per cent reduction."

Calls it 50 Per Cent Cut

Mr. Furuseth said deflation in seamen's wages took place ten days after the armistice, the 50 per cent increase allowed during the war being cut off without complaint by the men. He added that there was no excuse for overtime at sea, but that the reduction of 15 per cent in wages plus elimination of overtime and reduction of subsistence allowances meant a 50 per cent reduction in the seamen's income.

"The Shipping Board doesn't know anything about this business," declared Edward B. Griffin, representing the cooks and stewards.

Practical passenger steamship operators, he said, would not advance such a proposition as a 15 per cent reduction in wages because they would know that if they took away that much of the men's pay the men would take as much and more from the operators by the service they would give in return.

Collusion Is Charged

Charges that American steamship owners were in collusion with British owners to effect a reduction of wages in both countries were made by Mr. Brown, of the engineers, and denied by Mr. Thompson, Chairman Benson said that the question of foreign shipping

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"I have given much thought to this matter," he said, "I want to be fair to the interests of the men and officers who are manning our ships, to the operators and owners who are looking to the Shipping Board to protect their interests in the merchant marine. All of us should consider the interests of the private owner in foreign trade, who is manfully carrying the burden of competition unassisted by the government."

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A CHASSIS, fitted with a Sedan Type of Body, fully equipped, is \$16,250.

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was not at issue and that he would not consider the charges.

With reference to statements by Mr. Griffin, of the cooks and stewards, that poor service would be given in the event of a cut in wages, Chairman Benson said he hoped the sentiments of the union's representatives were not those of the members. Mr. Griffin said if the men did not know enough to "play even" with the operators he would take the responsibility of telling them to do so.

Clifford To Be Mellon's Aid

Colonel Clifford was backed by Senators McCormick and McKinley for the revenue post. Great pressure was brought to bear upon the President to name him as commissioner.

Colonel Clifford is the first Illinois man to receive recognition in the form of substantial patronage from the Administration.

Harding Names Illinois Man Asst. Secretary of Treasury

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Colonel Edward Clifford, of Chicago, was nominated today by the President for the post of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. His name, with a group of lesser nominations, was sent to the Senate for confirmation. The selection of Colonel Clifford follows his elimination as a contender for the post of Commissioner of Internal Revenue, recently given to David H. Blair, of North Carolina.

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